

On Call Inside the Blue



A community news publication of the Arlington Police Department

In the Community

Arlington Police Chief Will Johnson reminds parents and guardians to take 25 minutes this summer and talk with your children about safety. More details inside.



Arlington Clergy and Police Partnerships (ACAPP) welcome 10 new graduates.

Congratulations! On **June 6**, the Arlington Police Department will celebrate the retirements of six outstanding employees.

The Highpoint Addition Community Watch Group meets at 7 p.m. **June 6**.

You're Invited! The 3rd Annual Officer Jillian Smith Scholarship Gala & Casino is Friday, June 14 at Cacharel. [Get tickets here](#) or 214-287-6921 or 817-487-5177.

Father's Day is Sunday, June 16.

Just in time for summer! PAL Camp (Police Athletic League) starts **Monday, June 17**.

The All-City Community Watch Coordinators Meeting is Tuesday, **June 18**.

Whispering Woods Apartments will host a Community Watch meeting on **June 20**.

The Arlington Independence Day Parade is **Thursday, July 4**, in downtown Arlington.

Teens Call It "The Rec" The Arlington Community Calls It Success!



Before a church opened its recreation center last fall, teenagers with no place to hang out after school met up with friends in nearby parking lots.

It was an unsafe environment, recalls North District Crime Prevention Officer Kimberly Fretwell who was noticing more police report calls involving students. She said safety was a number one concern. The North Davis Church of Christ, located within walking distance of the high school campus, had a solution.

Twice a week, the church opens its Family Life Center after school. Teens enjoy free snacks, play basketball, finish their homework and meet up with friends in a fun, safe environment. North District Patrol Officers stop in to interact with teens and volunteers. Participation started out small and has grown to 80-90 teens. The center became known as "The Rec."

"Anytime you have a partnership like this that brings generations of people together and takes kids off the street and brings them into a place where they feel love and encouraged is successful in my eyes," said Darrell Lanford, Youth and Family Minister at North Davis Church of Christ. "We're committed to continuing this program when the new school year begins."

According to Deputy Police Chief Leland Strickland, "The Rec" has been a successful community partnership and big plans are being made for the new school year.

Good news! An analysis of police service calls in this area between September 2012 and April 2013 shows a 58 percent drop in report calls involving youth when compared to the same time period of the previous year.



On May 16, teens enjoyed an end-of-school year basketball game with Arlington officers.

Inside APD was there.

[Click here to watch.](#)



On Call

North District

Safe Walk Through North District Raises Dollars for Clean Water



Corporal Bryant Parks helps walkers cross safely at this intersection.

Everyone knows about the benefits of walking. It's good for the heart and can improve overall health and well being. A recent walk through the North District was a benefit for clean drinking water. What started as a fundraiser in Nashville, Tennessee in 2007 has become a successful endeavor that raises funds for the construction of water wells in countries of great need. About 150 members from the North Davis Church of Christ recently participated in the 4-mile Walk for Water. The North Davis Church of Christ serves as the Tarrant County host church for this endeavor, which is sponsored by Healing Hands International.



Organizers say their goal was to raise \$10,000 to drill water wells in places such as Kenya, India, Ethiopia, South Sudan and Haiti. In these countries, the average walk for clean drinking water is four miles, and this is exactly how far walkers traveled in the north district. Residents walked safely along various streets, some pushing baby strollers and others in small groups. The outcome was a success. More than \$20,000 was raised, enough for five water wells! This walk delivers the lifesaving gift of clean drinking water to villages that need it.

Each month in On Call, watch for more public safety highlights from the North District Crime Prevention Officer Kimberly Fretwell. Contact her at 817-459-5589 or Kim.Fretwell@Arlingtontx.gov.



On Call

South District

South District Commander is a Graduate of the FBI National Academy

The South Police District is proud to highlight the achievements of Deputy Police Chief Jeff Petty, who recently became one of 249 law enforcement officers to graduate from the FBI National Academy on April 29.

Chief Petty is currently assigned as the South District Commander over patrol operations.

The FBI National Academy is a professional course of study for law enforcement leaders. It is 10 weeks of advanced leadership, fitness, investigative and specialized training. Participation is by invitation only.

Chief Petty recently reflected on his experience, which allowed him to learn more about other countries and how their criminal justice systems work. He toured the Philadelphia Police headquarters and made connections that serve to strengthen global law enforcement partnerships.



Chief
Jeff
Petty

After being away from family, Chief Petty scored big with a little piece of home while supporting a good cause. A silent auction for the Concerns of Police Survivors and the National Law Enforcement Memorial raised nearly \$13,000. He won an autographed Nolan Ryan baseball for his son.

The Yellow Brick Road is the final phase of the fitness challenge, consisting of a



6.1-mile run and obstacle course through a hilly, wooded trail built by the U.S. Marines. Chief Petty successfully passed this test and returns home with his own "yellow brick" to memorialize his achievement.

To date, 46,610 law enforcement officials have graduated from the FBI National Academy and we're proud to count another Arlington commander among the roster of distinguished graduates.



Watch for new crime prevention highlight every month. Contact Crime Prevention Specialist Curtice Ervin at 817-459-5732 or Curtice.Ervin@Arlingtontx.gov for more information.

On Call East District



Foot Patrol Officers Make Parent Coffee Forums Informative for Families

The East Foot Patrol team has hosted two forums in conjunction with Thornton Elementary School's Parent Coffee series. More than 35 families attended the first session on April 19 and organizers say it was one of the school's largest Parent Coffee gatherings to date.

Foot Patrol Officers connected with Sgt. Ricardo Lucero, Detective Emma Trevino with the Alliance for Children and Susan Rial with Child Protective Services to participate and provide information and resources to parents. A member of the Hispanic Citizens Police Academy assisted with translation.

Immediately following the program, parents waited in line to ask East Foot Patrol Officers Gary Sims, Chad Roberts and John Henry a wide variety of questions. One mother was able to report alleged abuse to CPS.

A second session on May 17 featured Detective Angie Franco from the APD Domestic Violence Unit and Jackeline Castillo with Arlington's Victim Services Unit. They did an excellent job of addressing a lot of misinformation about domestic violence. Parents asked questions as concerned families met one-on-one with officers about domestic violence issues that have impacted them or their loved ones.



A special thanks to all the families who made time in their schedules to attend. APD was proud to help organize and facilitate some healthy discussions about safety and domestic violence.



Every month, watch for a new Crime Prevention highlight from the East District Crime Prevention Officer Faviola Delgado. Contact her at 817-459-5817 or Faviola.Delgado@ArlingtonTx.gov.

On Call West District

This Summer, Schedule 25 Minutes to Talk With Your Children about Safety

Take 25 is a preventive child safety campaign created by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

Observed annually on May 25, this day serves as a reminder to make child safety a national priority. The goal is to heighten awareness about children's safety issues with a focus on prevention.

The Take 25 campaign encourages parents, guardians, and other trusted adult role models in our communities to spend time teaching our youth about safety.

For conversation starters and activities that can help you communicate with your children, visit www.Take25.org

Let's Talk!

- Make sure your child knows his/her full name, address and telephone number.
- Remind your children that it's okay to say "NO" to anything that makes them feel afraid or uncomfortable.
- Remind children to never walk or play alone outdoors.
- Teach them how to locate help at amusement parks, stadiums, shopping malls, and other public places. Help them identify people who can help such as a uniformed police officer, a security guard or store clerk wearing a name tag.
- Make sure your child knows how to reach you at work or on your cell phone.
- Practice "what if" situations and ask your children how they would respond.



New crime prevention highlights each month from the West District Crime Prevention Officer Doug Glotfelty. Contact him at 817-459-6072 or Doug.Glotfelty@Arlingtontx.gov.

"I Realized I was in a Bad Place"

Motorist Thanks Arlington Officers Who Kept Him Safe Alongside a Busy Interstate



Johnnie Russell arrived safely at work thanks to officers.

Since 2006, Johnnie Russell has traveled this same stretch of Interstate 30, commuting daily from his home in Parker County to his job at Frito Lay in Arlington.

His regular commute turned horrific one busy afternoon in early May when the new truck he was driving struck an object in the roadway. Russell was forced to stop on the shoulder to change a flat tire.

"Fielder Road would have been my first exit, but I couldn't get there," Russell said. "When I stopped, I realized I was in a bad place."

Vehicles were whizzing by, he recalls. "The traffic coming over the hill couldn't see me," he said.

From safely inside his truck, he called 9-1-1. "I needed an officer to warn the traffic so that I could change the tire and get out of danger."

Corporal William Brewer and Officer Eric Bray responded to the assist motorist call on I-30 at approximately 1:35 p.m.

Officer Bray monitored the perimeter, keeping an eye on the fast-moving traffic while Corporal Brewer moved quickly to help Russell get a spare tire on his truck.

Suddenly, Officer Bray yelled, "Watch out!" seconds before a crash occurred, involving vehicles in the eastbound lanes. Russell took immediate cover in a ditch.

"These two guys were my guardian angels," Russell said. "They saved my life."

In a Twitter post he sent to APD, Russell wrote: *"They kept me out of danger and I owe them a lot. So many times you hear about the bad but people fail to say the good."*

Highway Safety Tip from Officers

If you have a flat tire on a busy roadway or interstate, get your vehicle away from the pavement onto a grassy area. Call 9-1-1 if you are in immediate danger.

Hot Weather Alert - Texas Heat Requires Extra Safety Inside Vehicles

Heat is a leading weather-related killer in the U.S.

In 2011, Texas led the nation in heat-related deaths involving vehicles. Every summer, children and pets die from hyperthermia because they were left inside of parked vehicles.

The Arlington Police Department teams up with Code Compliance Services to remind parents, caregivers and pet owners that Texas heat requires extra safety vigilance inside vehicles.

Never leave pets and children unattended inside vehicles, even with the windows rolled down.

Beat the Heat – Check the Back Seat!

- * Never leave a child or pet unattended inside of a vehicle, even with the windows down. The temperature inside a vehicle can rise quickly in minutes.
- * **Make sure all children have safely left the vehicle when unloading. Search carefully for sleeping infants inside of the vehicle.**
- * Always lock vehicle doors and trunks and keep keys and remote entry devices out of children's reach.
- * **If a child is missing, call 911. Teach your children that vehicles, including trunks, are never to be used as a play area.**
- * **Take action! When you see a child or animal unattended in a vehicle, call 9-1-1.**



[Download this Heat Safety poster for your school or place of business.](#)



On Call

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Send story ideas and comments to:

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www.ArlingtonPD.org

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